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million francs (£160,000,000) would have sufficed to abolish slavery by purchasing every slave at the general average rate of 1,000 francs (£40) each, taking young and old, men and women, the infants and the aged, uniformly." What economy this would have been! But, as was remarked by M. Michael Chevalier, to have exercised this wise and self-denying foresight, America should have possessed, in the crisis of 1861, men as great as those who directed the crisis of the last century,—a Franklin in the North and a Washington in the South. Yet even this should not have been necessary. For a truly-informed and virtuous people knows how to act, irrespectively of its great men, and will adopt useful and right measures from the prompting of its own intelligence and virtue.

INTERNATIONAL LAW.—This subject, one of the most important that can be well conceived, ought to be, and rightly understood and applied must be, an auxiliary, if not pioneer, in the cause of peace. Its bearings in this respect are coming more and more to be viewed in this light by leading minds.

With this view the late Dr. Whewell, of Cambridge University, England, bequeathed to that Alma Mater of Milton and Bacon \$ 350,000 for "the endowment of a Professorship and Scholarships in the University." His leading motive may be gathered from this provision—"The Professor is enjoined by the will to make it his aim in his lectures and all parts of his treatment of the subject of *International Law*, to lay down such rules and to suggest such measures as may tend to diminish the evils of war, and finally to extinguish war between nations." We hope like professorships, actuated by a similar spirit, and guided by the same principles, may yet be established in all our higher seminaries of learning.

OUR WESTERN CORRESPONDENCE.

A night ride from Tomah to La Crosse, and a boat ride from the latter place to St. Paul, Minn.

Of all methods of travelling yet invented, commend me to a first-class steam-boat, and especially to a steam-boat on the Mississippi River. I have journeyed on them many times, and never yet without regretting that the journey should end so soon. Free from the noise and dust of railroad travelling, with opportunities to form agreeable acquaintance on board, and to eat and read and sleep at leisure, the person must be hard indeed to please who cannot enjoy himself on one of these floating palaces.

There is one drawback, however, to the pleasure of travelling on the river between Dubuque and St. Paul. Instead of being able to gaze on beautiful farms extending quite down to the river's bank, you are shut in by high hills or bluffs for almost the whole distance. Only here and there at long intervals is there space sufficient between the river and the bluffs for town sites, and many of the towns seem crowded into nooks which leave but little room for future expansion. These bluffs extend back for several miles; and it is not until one gets beyond them, that he is permitted to gaze on a landscape which beauty's self might envy. Above the falls of St. Anthony the river seems lifted out of its bed, and is nearly on a level with the surrounding country, so that a fine view of both may be had at the same time.

Boats can ascend the Mississippi in high water to the Rapids just below St. Anthony and Minneapolis; but they

usually stop at St. Paul, and a rail-road on each side of the river affords ready access to the former places.

THE FALLS OF ST. ANTHONY.—Who that has arrived at middle age does not recollect gazing on the map in his schoolboy days at their location in the then far off North West? But how few of them ever expected to behold the reality, or that within a few years the immense water-power at this place would be utilized, and that cities whose inhabitants are counted by thousands would spring up in the vicinity, on both sides of the river? The fact has been realized almost before it was dreamed of; and now St. Anthony and Minneapolis, connected by a Suspension Bridge, and ultimately to be one city, have a busy population of some twelve or fifteen thousand.

But the *Falls* of St. Anthony are soon to be no more. The water at this place has been playing fantastic freaks, and in simple self-defence, the people of the two cities have resolved that it shall conduct itself in a more orderly manner hereafter, and cease to plunge headlong, and tearing over the rocks. The facts are these: the river, at this place, flows over a stratum of limestone, a few feet thick. Underneath this limestone is a bed of sandstone, so soft that it can almost be spaded. The water, falling over the limestone, produces a backward or counter current which has washed away the sandstone, and left nothing but their own cohesion to support the rocks above. Hence they have from time to time broken off and fallen into the river below. Hence, also, the Falls have gradually receded up stream, and the water, instead of flowing over in a beautiful curve, dashes and foams among the rocks, presenting neither the beauty of Minnehaha, nor the grandeur of Niagara.

To prevent still farther recession, and the removal of the water-power from the large amount of machinery which it now propels, an apron of timber, some 200 or 300 feet long, is being constructed, the upper end rising to a level with the bed of the river, where it commences its fall, and the lower end resting on the bottom below, thus conducting the water to the lower level on an inclined plane, and preventing the counter current which has done such damage before. When it is remembered that although the volume of water pouring over the rocks here is great, its descent is only a few feet, the practicability of this expedient will be most apparent. The cost of this, however, is so great, and its importance to the prosperity and growth of St. Anthony and Minneapolis so obvious, that these cities in their corporate capacity unite with the owners of the water-power and the mills in defraying the expense.

The manufacture of pine lumber from logs floated down the upper Mississippi and its tributaries, is the leading business at the Falls, and it is surprising to see how rapidly a gang of saws will drive its way through one of these logs, and transform it by a single passage into a pile of boards. But in addition to Saw Mills, there are Flouring Mills, Paper Mills, Planing Mills, an Axe factory, a Woollen factory, and Machine Shops of various kinds.

Extensive as is the water-power at the Falls, a novel expedient has been resorted to to increase it. Below them tunnels of six or eight feet in diameter have been commenced in the soft sandstone, and run under the limestone for some distance above. Over these tunnels at frequent intervals on the shore and on the island upright shafts are sunk, in which water-wheels will be placed, which are to propel the machinery above them. The water from above the dam will then be admitted into these shafts, and after falling on the wheels, find its way to the river below through the tunnels referred to. The design seems to be that the Mississippi shall not pass from its upper to its lower bed without paying a good round toll for the privi-

lege, and performing a service which shall entitle it to roll on quietly during the remainder of its journey to the Gulf of Mexico.

But what about the Peace cause in these cities of the Falls? On the first Sabbath after my arrival, we had a Union Peace Meeting in St. Anthony. Among the speakers was a gentleman from Illinois who has recently become so much interested in the Peace cause that he has given \$50 for its support; and although he is a man of business and property, so that he is not dependent upon any salary for his support, he is thinking seriously of giving his time as well as his money to the work.

While there I also met an ex-soldier who told me that he had seen men hung up by the thumbs for hours for violating military commands by simply brushing flies from their faces. He has seen enough of war, and has now engaged to labor a year or more for the Peace Society in trying to prevent another.

On the next Sabbath we held two Union Peace Meetings in Minneapolis, and on the Sabbath following that, I addressed two other congregations there in their respective places of worship. In this place is a small but active Society of Friends, or Quakers, and to them we are greatly indebted for their cheerful and liberal co-operation. If all Christian sects since the time of the Reformation had taken the stand with regard to war which has been maintained by the Quakers, this reform would have been more complete, and Christianity would have been far less retarded. One of the greatest obstacles to its progress among the heathen, is the *warlike character of the nations which send them the Gospel*.

The pecuniary results of the efforts for the Peace Cause in St. Anthony and Minneapolis were one life-directorship of \$50 paid down, thirteen life-memberships of \$20 each payable in instalments, and cash from all sources to the amount of about \$275. We trust that some seed has been sown which will *produce fruit* hereafter.

AN AGENT'S EXPERIENCE.—I find this morning, on looking over the record of my work, that I have taken, last month and this, 45 Life Membership pledges to the American Peace Society. I have spoken on peace in these two months about 20 times, beginning in Cleveland, and going to the Southern part of Ohio. I have circulated many thousand pages of the Society's literature. Last week was my best week, fifteen Life Memberships. I state this for the encouragement of others. I often get discouraged; but I keep on and God blesses me. I come to this conclusion, the greatest hindrance to peace is the *want of funds*, and earnest men to teach it to the world. Lord of peace, send us more laborers.

New Vienna, Ohio, August 23,

W. G. H.

RHODE ISLAND PEACE SOCIETY.

Gilbert Congdon, President.

Wm. Chace,
Samuel Austin,
D. R. Whittemore, } V. P's.

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and Treasurer.

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Geo. J. Adams,
Charles Perry,
Jona. L. Slocum,
Levi K. Joslin,

☞ Receipts are unexpectedly too numerous to be all included in this number. Delay is often unavoidable, but everything, we trust, will be duly reported in time.

A VICTORY.

The joy-bells peal a merry tune
Along the evening air;
The crackling bonfires turn the sky
All crimson with their glare;
Bold music fills the startled streets
With mirth-inspiring sound;
The gaping cannon's reddening breath
Wakes thunder-shouts around;
And thousand joyful voices cry,
"Huzza! huzza! a victory!"

A little girl stood at the door,
And with her kitten played,
Less wild and frolicsome than she,
That rosy, prattling maid.
Sudden her cheek turns ghastly white;
Her eye with fear is filled,
And rushing in-of-doors, she screams—
"My brother Willie's killed!"
And thousand joyful voices cry,
"Huzza! huzza! a victory!"

A mother sat in thoughtful ease,
A-knitting by the fire,
Plying the needle's thrifty task
With hands that never tire.
She tore her few gray hairs, and shrieked
"My joy on earth is gone!"
O, who will lay me in the grave!
O God! my son! my son!"
A thousand joyful voices cry,
"Huzza! huzza! a victory!"

A youthful wife the threshold crossed
With matron's treasure blessed;
A smiling infant nestling lay
In slumber at her breast.
She spoke no word, she heaved no sigh,
The widow's tale to tell;
But like a corpse, all white and stiff,
Upon the earth-floor fell.
And thousand joyful voices cry,
"Huzza! huzza! a victory!"

An old, weak man, with head of snow,
And years three score and ten,
Looked in upon his cabin home,
And anguish seized him then.
He heeds not wife nor helpless babe,
Matron, nor little maid,
One scalding tear, one choking sob,
He knelt him down and prayed.
And thousand joyful voices cry,
Huzza! huzza! a victory!"

Douglas Jerrold.

MISCELANIES ON KINDRED TOPICS.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—It is said that the contributions of the entire Christian world for foreign missions last year, were about \$5,000,000. The war-system cost, in one way or another, \$2,000,000,000, or 400 times as much for war as for the world's evangelization.

NATIVE CHURCHES AMONG THE HEATHEN.—One-fifth of the donations received by the London Missionary Society comes from its mission stations.

The practice of giving one-tenth of their income to the Lord has increased much among the churches in Ceylon. Many of the church members are active in their labors of love. In Trilipally the afternoon service has been given up, and the men go forth two and two to preach the Word, while the women meet to study the Scriptures.